

casualties or damage, mass evacuations, or disruption severely affecting the population, infrastructure, environment, economy, national morale, or government functions in an area; and

- (B) may include an incident—
- (i) with a sustained national impact over a prolonged period of time;
 - (ii) that may rapidly exceed resources available to State and local government and private sector authorities in the impacted area; or
 - (iii) that may significantly interrupt governmental operations and emergency services to such an extent that national security could be threatened.

(4) Critical infrastructure

The term “critical infrastructure” has the meaning given such term in section 5195c(e) of title 42.

(5) Existential risk

The term “existential risk” means the potential for an outcome that would result in human extinction.

(6) Global catastrophic risk

The term “global catastrophic risk” means the risk of events or incidents consequential enough to significantly harm or set back human civilization at the global scale.

(7) Global catastrophic and existential threats

The term “global catastrophic and existential threats” means threats that with varying likelihood may produce consequences severe enough to result in systemic failure or destruction of critical infrastructure or significant harm to human civilization. Examples of global catastrophic and existential threats include severe global pandemics, nuclear war, asteroid and comet impacts, supervolcanoes, sudden and severe changes to the climate, and intentional or accidental threats arising from the use and development of emerging technologies.

(8) Indian Tribal government

The term “Indian Tribal government” has the meaning given the term “Indian tribal government” in section 5122 of title 42.

(9) Local government; State

The terms “local government” and “State” have the meanings given such terms in section 5122 of title 42.

(10) National exercise program

The term “national exercise program” means activities carried out to test and evaluate the national preparedness goal and related plans and strategies as described in section 748(b) of this title.

(11) Secretary

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(Pub. L. 117–263, div. G, title LXXIII, § 7302, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3684.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 5195c(e) of title 42, referred to in par. (4), was in the original “section 1016(e) of the Critical Infra-

structure Protection Act of 2001” and was translated as reading “section 1016(e) of the Critical Infrastructures Protection Act of 2001”, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

§ 822. Assessment of global catastrophic risk

(a) In general

The Secretary and the Administrator shall coordinate an assessment of global catastrophic risk.

(b) Coordination

When coordinating the assessment under subsection (a), the Secretary and the Administrator shall coordinate with senior designees of—

- (1) the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs;
- (2) the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy;
- (3) the Secretary of State and the Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security;
- (4) the Attorney General and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation;
- (5) the Secretary of Energy, the Under Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Security, and the Director of Science;
- (6) the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and the Assistant Secretary of Global Affairs;
- (7) the Secretary of Commerce, the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology;
- (8) the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the United States Geological Survey;
- (9) the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Assistant Administrator for Water;
- (10) the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;
- (11) the Director of the National Science Foundation;
- (12) the Secretary of the Treasury;
- (13) the Secretary of Defense, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, and the Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the Army Corps of Engineers;
- (14) the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff;
- (15) the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development;
- (16) the Secretary of Transportation; and
- (17) other stakeholders the Secretary and the Administrator determine appropriate.

(Pub. L. 117–263, div. G, title LXXIII, § 7303, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3685.)

§ 823. Report required

(a) In general

Not later than 1 year after December 23, 2022, and every 10 years thereafter, the Secretary, in coordination with the Administrator, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report containing a

detailed assessment, based on the input and coordination required under section 822 of this title, of global catastrophic and existential risk.

(b) Matters covered

Each report required under subsection (a) shall include—

- (1) expert estimates of cumulative global catastrophic and existential risk in the next 30 years, including separate estimates for the likelihood of occurrence and potential consequences;
- (2) expert-informed analyses of the risk of the most concerning specific global catastrophic and existential threats, including separate estimates, where reasonably feasible and credible, of each threat for its likelihood of occurrence and its potential consequences, as well as associated uncertainties;
- (3) a comprehensive list of potential catastrophic or existential threats, including even those that may have very low likelihood;
- (4) technical assessments and lay explanations of the analyzed global catastrophic and existential risks, including their qualitative character and key factors affecting their likelihood of occurrence and potential consequences;
- (5) an explanation of any factors that limit the ability of the Secretary to assess the risk both cumulatively and for particular threats, and how those limitations may be overcome through future research or with additional resources, programs, or authorities;
- (6) a forecast of if and why global catastrophic and existential risk is likely to increase or decrease significantly in the next 10 years, both qualitatively and quantitatively, as well as a description of associated uncertainties;
- (7) proposals for how the Federal Government may more adequately assess global catastrophic and existential risk on an ongoing basis in future years;
- (8) recommendations for legislative actions, as appropriate, to support the evaluation and assessment of global catastrophic and existential risk; and
- (9) other matters deemed appropriate by the Secretary, in coordination with the Administrator, and based on the input and coordination required under section 822 of this title.

(c) Consultation requirement

In producing the report required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

- (1) regularly consult with experts on severe global pandemics, nuclear war, asteroid and comet impacts, supervolcanoes, sudden and severe changes to the climate, and intentional or accidental threats arising from the use and development of emerging technologies; and
- (2) share information gained through the consultation required under paragraph (1) with relevant Federal partners listed in section 822(b) of this title.

(Pub. L. 117–263, div. G, title LXXIII, § 7304, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3686.)

§ 824. Enhanced catastrophic incident annex

(a) In general

The Secretary, in coordination with the Administrator and the Federal partners listed in

section 822(b) of this title, shall supplement each Federal Interagency Operational Plan to include an annex containing a strategy to ensure the health, safety, and general welfare of the civilian population affected by catastrophic incidents by—

- (1) providing for the basic needs of the civilian population of the United States that is impacted by catastrophic incidents in the United States;
- (2) coordinating response efforts with State, local, and Indian Tribal governments, the private sector, and nonprofit relief organizations;
- (3) promoting personal and local readiness and non-reliance on government relief during periods of heightened tension or after catastrophic incidents; and
- (4) developing international partnerships with allied nations for the provision of relief services and goods.

(b) Elements of the strategy

The strategy required under subsection (a) shall include a description of—

- (1) actions the Federal Government should take to ensure the basic needs of the civilian population of the United States in a catastrophic incident are met;
- (2) how the Federal Government should coordinate with non-Federal entities to multiply resources and enhance relief capabilities, including—
 - (A) State and local governments;
 - (B) Indian Tribal governments;
 - (C) State disaster relief agencies;
 - (D) State and local disaster relief managers;
 - (E) State National Guards;
 - (F) law enforcement and first response entities; and
 - (G) nonprofit relief services;
- (3) actions the Federal Government should take to enhance individual resiliency to the effects of a catastrophic incident, which actions shall include—
 - (A) readiness alerts to the public during periods of elevated threat;
 - (B) efforts to enhance domestic supply and availability of critical goods and basic necessities; and
 - (C) information campaigns to ensure the public is aware of response plans and services that will be activated when necessary;
- (4) efforts the Federal Government should undertake and agreements the Federal Government should seek with international allies to enhance the readiness of the United States to provide for the general welfare;
- (5) how the strategy will be implemented should multiple levels of critical infrastructure be destroyed or taken offline entirely for an extended period of time; and
- (6) the authorities the Federal Government should implicate in responding to a catastrophic incident.

(3) actions the Federal Government should take to enhance individual resiliency to the effects of a catastrophic incident, which actions shall include—

- (A) readiness alerts to the public during periods of elevated threat;
- (B) efforts to enhance domestic supply and availability of critical goods and basic necessities; and
- (C) information campaigns to ensure the public is aware of response plans and services that will be activated when necessary;

(4) efforts the Federal Government should undertake and agreements the Federal Government should seek with international allies to enhance the readiness of the United States to provide for the general welfare;

(5) how the strategy will be implemented should multiple levels of critical infrastructure be destroyed or taken offline entirely for an extended period of time; and

(6) the authorities the Federal Government should implicate in responding to a catastrophic incident.

(c) Assumptions

In designing the strategy under subsection (a), the Secretary, in coordination with the Administrator and the Federal partners listed in section 822(b) of this title, shall account for certain